THE BLUE BLAZE

Newsletter of the Catoctin Mountain District (Est. June 3, 2003) **March 2008 Vol. 6 No. 3**
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Upcoming Events

March

15	**Super Training Day**: New Leader Essentials, Cub Scout Leader Specific Training, Tiger Den Leader Specific Training, Cub Scout Den Leader Specific Training, Webelos Den Leader Specific Training, Pack Committee Leader Specific Training, Cubmaster Leader Specific Training, Venturing Leader Specific Training, Varsity Leader Specific Training, Chartered Organization Representative Training CMD
15	**First Aid Meet**
25	District Committee Meeting 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St., Frederick
26	Eagle Review
28	New Leader Essentials AT
29	Boy Scout Leader Specific Training (Parts 1-3) AT

April

4	Swim Meet (see article page 2)
8	Roundtable/OA 7:15pm, old St. John's School, 114 E. 2nd St. Frederick
8	Trek Safety CMD, Troop Committee Challenge CMD, Webelos Den Leader Specific CMD
8	Boy Scout Leader Specific Training Part 3 AT
10	Commissioner's Meeting 7:30pm Walkersville LDS Chapel
11-13	Spring Camporee
12	Boy Scout Leader Specific Training Parts 1-3 CMD
12	Merit Badge Madness AT (see article page 5)
15	District award nomination due
18	Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training AT
19	BALOO AT
19-20	Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Training FO
22	District Annual Meeting 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St., Frederick
23	Eagle Review
25-27	OA Ordeal
25-27	Wood Badge Part 1
26	BALOO FO

May

2	District Junior Leader Training (JLT) CMD
2-4	Religious Retreat (see flier page 9)
3	District Dinner 6:30pm Cozy Restaurant, Thurmont
13	Roundtable/OA 7:15pm, old St. John's School, 114 E. 2nd St. Frederick
13	Safety Afloat Training CMD
13	Leave No Trace Training CMD
15	Commissioner's Meeting 7:30pm Walkersville LDS Chapel
27	District Committee Meeting 7:30pm Church of Christ, 1305 N. Market St., Frederick
28	Eagle Review

You are welcome to take training in any District

Note: This calendar references training in all the Districts of the MD North Service Area. The codes are as follows: CMD = Catoctin Mountain District, AT = Appalachian Trail District, FO = Forest Oak District and BH = Black Hill District. For more information, visit http://www.boyScouts-ncac.org/pages/20893_montgomery_frederick_county_training.cfm

District Key 3 Leadership

Tim Richardson, District Director trichardson@boyscouts-ncac.org , 301-529-6188
Ed Clayson, District Chairman, eclays@fred.net 301-845-2015
Steve Vaughn, District Commissioner, stevendvaughn@aol.com, 301-898-5521

Spring Camporee by Dave Place, Camporee Chairman

Troop 270 of Thurmont would like to invite all Troops and Crews within the Catoctin Mountain District to attend the 2008 Spring Camporee. The Scouts have spent a full year preparing and planning this Camporee, including hand crafting the "Super Troop" competition trophy! (See the Leader's Packet). This year's theme is "Field and Country Sports" including field archery, .22 rifle shooting, shotgun/skeet shooting, [cowboy rifle and pistol shooting (14+ w/parental permission)], bass fishing contest, compass and GPS Geocaching contest, falconry hunting demo, outdoor cooking hands-on, campsite contests and don't forget the Order of the Arrow campfire and call out. Come and join us for this action packed fun and exciting weekend!

The Leader's Packet for the 2008 Catoctin Mountain District Spring Camporee went out in an earlier mailing. This packet should explain most everything you will need to know to prepare your Troop or Crew for the Camporee. If you should have any questions what-so-ever, please feel free to contact me david.place@Troop270.com .

Swim Meet

The 27th Annual Pack 278-Troop 278 Invitations Swim Meet will be on Friday, April 4th, from 7-9 pm at the Middletown High School Pool (same location as the previous 26 years). This Scout Swim night has also been known as the FSK District Swim Meet, and is currently the joint Appalachian Trail/Catoctin Mountain District Swim Meet. There will be time before (7:05 - 7:25) and after (8:15 - 8:45) the swim meet for Scouts to work on various aquatic requirements. The cost will be $5/Scout again this year. For more information, contact Michael Turell either by email, mturell@erols.com or by phone, 301-371-5412. Please see the attached flyer for more information. I hope to see your there,

Pinewood Derby Results

On March 1st the Monocacy Valley Church was abuzz with excitement and the roar of pinewood derby cars as they raced for the winning slots. Click on the following link for all the results of the races: http://www.ncacpack628.org/SuperDerby/2008/. Below are a few photos from the event. Congratulations to all who took part in the races and thanks to the Stalnakers and their pit crew for organizing and running this event.

Pinewood Derby Track Available

If your unit is looking for a Pinewood Derby track for your unit races, contact Sally Thompson 301-845-2260.

The Training Corner

by Damon Allen

Attention All Scouters, Upcoming Training Events…

Roundtable Trainings

Troop Committee Challenge will be offered at the April Roundtable on Tuesday **April 8, 2008** at the St. Johns School on 2nd Street. The training will begin at 6:00 and will finish around 9:00. The class will be held near the Cub and Boy Scout Roundtables. The cost of the training will be determined next month and this is an excellent opportunity for all Committee members of any Troop to interact with one another and to share experiences.

For more information and to sign up, contact Damon Allen, the Boy Scout Training Chairman at allenonthelake@comcast.net.

Leave No Trace Training will be offered at the May Roundtable on Tuesday **May 13, 2008** at the St. Johns School on 2nd Street. This course will teach any Scout Leader the basics of practicing Leave No Trace. Therefore, ***all*** scout leaders are welcomed to attend this course. This course will be offered by demand so please contact Damon Allen, the Boy Scout Training Chairman at allenonthelake@comcast.net and/or Colby Child, the District Training Chair at cchild@rcgoodwin.com if you are interested in taking the course.

Boy Scout Leader Specific Training (BSLST)

On Saturday **April 12**, during and at the Spring Camporee, the Catoctin Mountain Boy Scout Training Staff will conduct the BSLST Parts I, II, and III. All new and untrained Scout Leaders are encouraged to attend the training while at the Camporee. The schedule and details will be posted on the March and April Blue Blaze. The cost has yet to be determined.

Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills Course (IOLSC)

The Appalachian Trail District is planning to hold the IOLSC in the spring of 2008. The time, location, and cost will be determined at a late date. For more information about the course, you can contact Damon Allen, the Catoctin Mountain District Boy Scout Training Chairman at allenonthelake@comcast.net. You can also contact Hal Noer, the Appalachian Trail District Boy Scout Training Chairman at hnre@xecu.net.

Unit Commissioner Training

The Catoctin Mountain District Training Staff is planning to hold a Unit Commissioner Training Course on April 5th at the Walkersville LDS Chapel.

Citizenship Merit Badge Day 2008

Get the details from this link http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/pages/61601_citizenship_merit_badge_day.cfm
A wonderful opportunity to complete requirement 7e is right around the corner with the upcoming Japanese Street Festival. Scouts are needed to help and you can do so by participating in or attend an international event in your area, such as an ethnic festival, concert, or play. Click on the following link for details: http://www.sakuramatsuri.org/index.htm or contact Rich Golling r_golling@yahoo.com

High Adventure News

There are still openings at Maine, Adirondaks for this summer, and a few at Sea Base (mostly on off periods, not during the summer). Contact these bases directly for program opportunities. Philmont and Double H are full for 2008.

2008 NCAC Philmont Unit-Crew and Provisional Opportunities: Due to a cancellation there is now room for 2 crews on the NCAC P701 (6/29-7/13) contingent this summer. There is also provisional room for individuals on P708 and may be room on P715 if there are future cancellations. All provisional and unit crews will travel together under arrangements made by NCAC. The estimated cost is $1525 per person. For more information, contact Robert Kirk at rkirk@joejacquescpa.com or 240-676-7545 or Greg Morin at gmorin@boyscouts-ncac.org or 301-214-9105.

2009 NCAC Philmont Provisional and Unit-Crew Opportunities: NCAC is sponsoring three Philmont contingents in 2009: P701 (6/29-7/13), P707 (7/5-7/19), and P714 (7/12-7/28). Units may participate in a 5/5-11/08 lottery to obtain a crew on one of these contingents. The unit-crew request forms will be available on the new NCAC High Adventure website at http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=17084&orgkey=1988. Individual youth may also join these contingents by submitting a provisional application that will also be available on the website soon. All provisional and unit crews will travel together under arrangements made by NCAC. For more information, contact Robert Kirk at rkirk@joejacquescpa.com or 240-676-7545 or Greg Morin at gmorin@boyscouts-ncac.org or 301-214-9105.

High Adventure Program Summaries: These have been recently updated. For information on program opportunities, age requirements, and prices at Goshen's Lenhok'sin High Adventure, the Adirondack High Adventure Area, the Maine High Adventure Area, the Northern Tier High Adventure Bases, Philmont, Double H Ranch, and Florida Sea Base. For more information, go to:
http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=17084&orgkey=1988.
Many of these programs provide provisional opportunities for youth and adults unable to participate as a unit-crew. You are welcome to contact John Ruppel at ruppeljb@erols.com or 301-271-4105 if you need help finding a program suitable for your situation.

Catoctin Mt. District High Adventure Chair
John Ruppel, ruppeljb@erols.com, Home Phone 301-271-4105

USS Constellation Trip by Ed Brogden, Pack 727

I have been organizing a trip for my Cubs in Pack 727 to spend an overnighter in the USS Constellation in the Baltimore Harbor. We have PLENTY of additional space (like 40 spots), and it is a very cool overnighter. It runs from May 10th 5 PM to May 11th at 8 AM and costs $40 per person (for the future they have already raised the price to $50 per person). I wanted to open it up to the other packs for Cubs and parents who may have an interest. Plus I am nervous we may not have the minimum required, so it helps us too. :-) For more information, contract Ed Brogden at erbrogden@comcast.net.

Natural Resources Careers Conference

For student interested in a possible career in natural resources and environmental sciences, the Natural Resources Careers Conference July 20-26, 2008, could be an amazing and enlightening experience. The local Forestry Board will even pay the $300 tuition for students who meet the criteria. For details go to www.mdforest.sailorsite.net or http://www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/nrcareersconf.html. The deadline to apply is April 30th.

District Dinner

Mark your calendars for May 3, 2008 and plan to attend our District Annual Dinner at the Cozy Restaurant beginning at 6:30pm. At the District Dinner the recognition for Scoutmaster of the Year, Cubmaster of the Year and the Peak Awards will be presented. See the nomination forms on the following pages and make your submissions by April 15th. If you nominate someone for an award, please be sure that that person will attend the dinner to receive the award if selected. It would be a very nice gesture if the unit would buy the tickets for their nominee and his/her family.

Introducing the Brand New
Catoctin Mountain Peak Award!

While every Scouter contributes in some way to the overall success of his or her unit, there may be some Scouters who consistently give it their all. The Catoctin Mountain Peak Award allows each unit in our District the opportunity to recognize one deserving adult volunteer at the annual District Dinner in May.

Here's all you need to do:

1) Select the person your unit wants to recognize. It may be an adult leader, committee member, or even a community member who has gone above the call of duty to help your unit succeed. You can recognize someone who has contributed significantly during the past year or for his or her collective years of dedicated service to your unit.

2) Submit a write up explaining why they were selected and submit it electronically by April 15 to jimsundergill@comcast.net. This write up will be included in the District Dinner Program. Be sure to include your unit number and a unit contact person on the electronic submission. If you do not have access to e-mail, bring your written submission to the April Roundtable.

3) Invite your Catoctin Mountain Peak Award honoree and their spouse to the district dinner in May where they will be recognized.

Questions??? call Jim Sundergill at 301-898-7549or e-mail jimsundergill@comcast.net

Unit Number_____ Unit Contact Person_____

Phone_____

Catoctin Mountain Peak Honoree for 2008 _____

Please write a paragraph describing your honoree's contributions to Scouting:

Catoctin Mountain District

Scoutmaster of the Year Award for 2008

Minimum Qualifications:

You must currently be registered in the Scoutmaster position and have served as Scoutmaster for at least 2 years.

You have completed the Basic Adult Leader Training or its equivalent, i.e. Scoutmaster Fundamentals.

Scoutmasters may self-nominate or be nominated by someone else, provided the information is complete and accurate.

Instructions: You may attach additional pages if necessary.

Deadline: Send nominations to Ed Clayson eclays@fred.net by April 15.

The winner will be announced at the District Dinner on May 3, 2008.

Name **Unit Number**

Tenure in the Position

Training- (List trainings and dates)

Previous Scouting Awards-

Unit Advancement -What percentage of young men have advanced 1 rank during the past charter year (March 1- March 1).

Unit Program Highlights during the past charter year (March 1- March 1) Include high adventure programs, summer camps, camp outs, unit recognitions, service projects or any interesting events.

Your Community Service and Involvement (outside of scouting)

Catoctin Mountain District

Cubmaster of the Year Award for 2008

Minimum Qualifications:

You must currently be registered in the Cubmaster position.

You have completed the current Cub Leader Training or its equivalent.

Cubmasters may self-nominate or be nominated by someone else provided the information is complete and accurate.

Instructions: You may attach additional pages if necessary.

Deadline: Send nominations to Ed Clayson eclays@fred.net by April 15

The winner will be announced at the May 3rd District Dinner.

Name **Unit Number**

Tenure in the Position

Training- (List trainings and dates)

Previous Scouting Awards-

Unit Advancement -What percentage of young men have advanced 1 rank during the past charter year (March 1- March 1).

Unit Program Highlights during the past charter year (March 1- March 1) summer camps, camp outs, unit recognitions, service projects or any interesting events.

Your Community Service and Involvement (outside of scouting)

Roundtable Attendance Awards

At the District Scouter Breakfast held last month the awards for Boy Scout Roundtable attendance were presented. Attendance records were kept for the past year, taking note of how many Scouters from each unit attended each month. The winners were presented with cash prizes to be used for camperships within the unit.

First place	Troop 270	60 Scouters in attendance throughout 2007	$300
Second place	LDS units	43	150
Third place	Troop 799	37	150

50 Year Scouting Award

Congratulations to Bob Rosato for attaining 50 years of Scouting tenure. Bob has been an active Scouter in Troop 470 for many years. He has led numerous trips to Philmont and is currently coaching a group of boys and leaders that will make the trek to Philmont this year.

Day Camp

Cub Scout and Webelos Day Camps will be held simultaneously at the Woodsboro Park July 7-11. The theme for the 2008 Cub Scout Day Camps is **"Wild, Wacky, Wonderful Wheels".** This day camp theme includes just about everything that *rotates*.... wheels on a car, train wheels, Ferris wheels, hamster wheels, roller skate wheels, the earth, skateboard & bicycle wheels, spinning tops, pizza wheels, clockworks, color wheels... you get the idea!

Boys in grade 1 (as of September 2008) through Webelos are eligible to attend day camp. The cost is $130 'Early Bird' per boy for a full week of fun, if paid by April 11, 2008. Later sign-ups are $150 until May 23, 2008, and $175 after that. New Cub Scouts (any rank) will receive the 'Early Bird' discount of $130 for day camp, but will need to register using paper registration rather than online.
Click here to check out Online Registration. Boys will receive a camp T-shirt and all the goodies needed for a week of fun. One adult is needed for every five boys to escort the adventurers through camp, and to keep on the lookout for rolling imaginations. Tiger Cub adult partners are expected to attend camp with their son.

Goshen Scout Camps

Goshen Scout Reservation will come alive with activity for thousands of Webelos Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers, and adult leaders in 2008. In continuous operation since 1967, Goshen Scout Reservation is truly the premier camp in the area. Visit Goshen for the 2008 camping season. Click on the link for details: http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=1933.

Cub World

If your Cub unit has not attended Cub World, you have missed out on a great adventure—one that the boys and leaders will remember for years to come as a great experience. If you have attended Cub World before, than you know how much fun it is. The program changes each year so, sign up again or for the first time. Click on the link at the below and get all the details about the exciting programs at Camp Snyder this summer: http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/ViewOrgPageLink.asp?LinkKey=16581&orgkey=1933.

If you have any questions about Cub World, contact esteele@boyscouts-ncac.org.

THE 12TH POINT --A SCOUT IS REVERENT

THE CATHOLIC-PROTESTANT RETREAT AND JEWISH KINUS

2008 THEME: *CARETAKERS OF GOD'S CREATIONS*

DATES:
SCOUT/CUB WEEKEND PROGRAM: MAY 2 - 4, 2008
CUB DAY PROGRAM: MAY 3, 2008

LOCATION: CAMP SPENCER - BROADCREEK MEMORIAL SCOUT RESERVATION

CHECK IN:

- BRING 2 COPIES OF UNIT ROSTER
  NOTE AGE AND RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE
- WEEKEND CHECKIN - FROM 3:00PM FRIDAY
- DAY ONLY CHECKIN - 8:30 - 9:00AM SATURDAY

PLEASE REGISTER BY APRIL 20, 2008

FEES:

- FEES INCLUDE CAMPING FEE, INSURANCE, CRACKERBARREL, PROGRAM SUPPLIES, PATCH AND APPLICABLE MEALS AS SHOWN BELOW.
  - CAMP COOKING - SATURDAY BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER, & SUNDAY BREAKFAST
  - JEWISH CONTINGENT KOSHER MEALS - FRIDAY DINNER THRU SUNDAY BREAKFAST
  - SCOUTS/CUBS WITH TROOP COOKING - NO CAMP MEALS PROVIDED
  - CUB SCOUTS DAY PROGRAM - SATURDAY LUNCH
- SCOUTS & LEADERS WITH CAMP COOKING $25
- SCOUTS & LEADERS WITH TROOP COOKING $20
- CUB SCOUTS & LEADERS FOR DAY PROGRAM $12

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT ED PIECHOWIAK AT 410-744-7689.

RELIGIOUS RETREAT/KINUS 2008 REGISTRATION

*P/T/C*_____ *UNIT NO.* _____ *SPONSORING ORGANIZATION* _____ *DISTRICT*

_____ *UNIT LEADER* _____ *TELEPHONE* _____ *E-MAIL*

_____ *SCOUTS (11 TO 14)* + _____ *SCOUTS (15 TO 17)* + _____ *ADULTS* = _____ *TOTAL #* X _____ *WEEKEND FEE (SEE ABOVE)* = $_____

_____ *CUB/WEBELOS* + _____ *ADULTS* = _____ *TOTAL #* X _____ *$12.00 (DAY PROGRAM)* = $_____

☐ *TROOP COOKING* ☐ *CAMP KITCHEN MEALS* ☐ *KOSHER KITCHEN MEALS* *DATE REGISTERED:*_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: BALTIMORE AREA COUNCIL, BSA
MAIL TO: EDWARD PIECHOWIAK, 317 CHALFONTE DRIVE, CATONSVILLE, MD 21228-4507

Abduction Attempt Near Monocacy Elementary

The following message is forwarded to you from Brian Groover and deserves our upmost attention for the safety of our youth.

I got a letter from Monocacy Elementary School today about the following incident. Since not everyone in the neighborhood has children at Monocacy Elementary, I thought the NW community would be interested in the information provided below from the Frederick City Police Blotter, which I found today in the FNP. We need to speak to our children about this incident and advise them how to respond if a stranger approaches them in this way. The girl involved did the right thing: she yelled and ran and tried to get the license plate number. Smart girl. Someone likely prepared her for such an emergency. Let's keep our eyes open for each other, and for a black Ford Explorer driven by the man described below.

"The Frederick Police Department is investigating an incident in which a man told a Monocacy Elementary School student to get in his vehicle. A girl, who police did not name, was walking home from the Opossumtown Pike school when a man approached her at about 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sgt. Mathew Burns said. The man was standing next to a black Ford Explorer and told the girl to "Get in." The girl yelled and ran away. The man got back into the Ford Explorer and left, heading toward Hayward Road, he said. The girl only got a partial tag number, beginning with "NYS," from the Explorer, but the registration state wasn't known. The man is about 5 feet 8 inches tall with short brown hair, blue eyes and a light goatee. Anyone with information should call the department at 301-600-2100. "

For those of you with younger children, I strongly recommend the DVD *Stranger Safety*. It is fantastic! It was created by John Walsh (America's Most Wanted) and Julie Clark (Baby Einstein). My daughter loves it. It can be purchased at www.thesafeside.com.